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NAACP ousts Dukes, Lyons, Ghee, Bivens

The NAACP's Executive Board will ask for the resignations of four board members whose recent personal and legal conflicts have invited scrutiny of the NAACP's ethics.

On Friday, November 7, the National Executive Board in a meeting called by Chairman Myrlie Evers-Williams agreed it would be in the organization's best interest if Hazel Dukes, James Ghee, Henry Lyons and Bobby Bivens were to resign from their positions on the board. Ghee and Bivens were elected by the constituents of their respective regions. Dukes was elected at-large by the membership and Lyons was elected by the Board of Directors.

Should the individuals elect not to resign, the Executive Board has set in motion a constitutional process that will enable the full board to formally act on the matter before the organization's Annual Meeting in February, 1998. The facts regarding each board member's situation are being investigated by the Association's general counsel who will report back to the Executive Board this Friday. Additionally, the Executive Committee decided to investigate the finances of its New York State Conference and create an ad hoc committee on ethics to review, revise, and strengthen the NAACP's Code of Ethics.

Said Myrlie Evers-Williams: "I will personally communicate with each of these individuals to convey the Executive Committee's decision. As Chairman, I will expeditiously carry forth the process to resolve these issues. It is tragic that certain members of the Executive Committee breached the confidentiality of our deliberations before official notice could be sent to the individuals involved. In the end, the Board and the community will have a strong and viable organization, as I have been committed to providing since my election in 1995."

NEWS BRIEFS

Three doctors buy United Hospital at bargain price

NEWARK—Nine months after it was sold for \$13.1 million dollars, the United Healthcare System's main medical complex in Newark has been successfully off for \$725,000.

The successful bidder for the property is New United Corporation, which consists of three East Orange doctors. Although no plans have been announced for the facility, colleagues say the members plan to use the building as a long-term care center. Under the terms of the sale, the new owners will not move in until February.

White House lawyers have say in School Board case

WASHINGTON—Clinton administration lawyers will be allowed to state its case when the Supreme Court hears arguments in a case that began when the Piscataway School Board failed to add a white teacher to return a black teacher.

The legal team will participate in oral arguments, which are expected to take place early next year. The administration, in favoring racial diversity, said teacher issues of affirmative action should not be addressed in the Piscataway case.

Police seminar to focus on cultural awareness

NEWARK—Two former New York cops have been hired by the Newark County Board to provide training that will sustain the momentum of a 14 percent in crime this year.

The two officers who have formed a consulting service, Linder and Jack Maple, will help ease tensions between Newark police and the community caused by the death this summer of Dunston "Strawberry" Daniels. They will also give instruction on how to communicate better within the police department, and provide training in cultural awareness.

The election in retrospect:

Why Whitman won

By G.R. mattox

She won by an eyelash; a millimeter; a hair's breadth. Recent New Jersey history can claim several cliffhanger gubernatorial elections, but none kept citizens in more suspense than the races that got and kept Christie Whitman governor. Four years ago she removed Jim Florio from office by one percent, and this time around she kept her seat by beating Jim McGreevey by that same margin.

An election that was thought to be a shoo-in for Whitman turned into a photo finish horse race by virtue of McGreevey setting the campaign

agenda early in the campaign—auto income, property taxes and education. This was a focus from which he never deviated. Whitman's defense was to wrap herself in the mantle of incumbency, highlighting her successes with income tax cuts, a decedent economy for most segments of the voting population, crime reduction, and welfare reform.

The quality of education is of interest to the parents of 1.2 million school-age children. It is closely related to property taxes, as county and municipal governments must raise funds for public education. Whitman's 30 percent tax cut translated into less

money to local governments for schools.

But the number one concern of the voting public, as McGreevey and then Whitman saw it, was auto insurance premiums that are the highest in the country. Whitman had a plan to offer a 25 percent reduction to those who would opt for limited coverage, while the opponent proposed a 10 percent decrease across the board while closely monitoring and scrutinizing claims.

Another factor narrowing the gap concerned a matter of personal style that clearly showed in speeches on the campaign trail, and in a series of three debates. While she is a polished and

erudite speaker, Whitman's patrician style was perceived as being aloof from her middle class constituency. Her opponent's working class roots clearly came through in a plain-speaking, no nonsense—and, at times, a perhaps too earnest manner.

As election day approached, both the incumbent and the challenger made effective last ditch efforts. Some households received up to three phone calls from volunteers urging them to vote the democratic ticket. Whitman's strategy was to create what her campaign team called the "mea culpa ad," where she professed a new-found

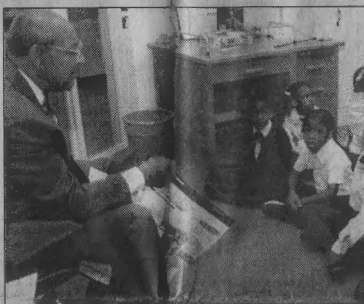
see WHY WHITMAN/PAGE B6

America's Leaders Rally Around Education During Teach For America Week

WASHINGTON—Political, community and entertainment leaders from U.S. Attorney General Reno to Olympic gold medalist Dan Jansen—donated time during Teach For America Week so that urban and rural public school students could benefit from their knowledge and experience. Teach For America Week, which took place from October 20-24 in 11 cities across the country, was designed to expose the nation's most underserved students to positive role models. It also provided an opportunity for successful Americans to gain greater insight on the harsh realities these students face each day.

Teach For America is a national teacher corps of outstanding recent college graduates who commit to teaching for two years in under-resourced urban and rural public schools. Each year, 10,000 corps members work with more than 100,000 students across the country. "Teach For America Week gave us an amazing opportunity to raise a awareness of our teachers and the students they serve. It was a win-win situation," said Kaya Henderson, executive director of Teach For America. "The students participated in creative lessons led by one of the nation's most prominent individuals; the parents experienced the realities and possibilities of underserved schools and students, and the Teach For America corps members were recognized for their dedication and service. They are making us our nation's future."

Teach For America Week participants included leaders in their field,



Rep. Louis Stokes (D-Ohio) met with a group of eager first graders at Anne Beers School in Washington, D.C. during "Teach For America Week." Stokes engaged them in lively discussion about the Underground Railroad. He also told the students about the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom Act of 1997, legislation he recently introduced in Congress to preserve and commemorate this extraordinary effort.

such as Deputy U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder, Rep. Louis Stokes (D-Ohio) and Lucio Noto, chairman and CEO of Mobil Corporation. Each person spent one hour in classrooms run by corps members giving lessons that ranged from the historical, such as the Underground Railroad, to the future, such as how a university works. Janet Reno and Eric Holder helped kick off Teach For America Week with students at the Tubman

see LEADERS RALLY/PAGE B6

National education week

WASHINGTON—During the week before Thanksgiving, communities coast to coast will pause to give thanks to the people who work to educate America's children. American Education Week, now in its 16th year, will be observed November 16-22.

"American Education Week is a time to celebrate our schools and

salute the unsung heroes of education," explains Bob Chase, president of the National Education Association (NEA). "It's also a time to recognize those small miracles that happen every day in our classrooms. And to acknowledge the thousands of success stories in schools across the

see EDUCATION/PAGE B6

NAACP calls for stronger diversity policy from Bell Atlantic

BALTIMORE, MD — The NAACP recently called for stepped-up action on Bell Atlantic's part to strengthen its diversity activities pending a racial discrimination class-action suit against the telecommunications company.

The NAACP believes that although Bell Atlantic Corporation has a policy regarding diversity and equal opportunity, there are ways to strengthen such policies to ensure better adherence and compliance with corporate objectives. NAACP President & CEO, Kweisi Mfume stated, "We believe it would be in the best interest of the corporation to resolve the pending discrimination case and involve itself more fully in establishing a plan of action to address whatever shortcomings may exist. We want Bell Atlantic to continue to create the workplace environment for people of all races and religious backgrounds."

The NAACP has suggested attention to the following points Bell Atlantic expands on in its initiatives internally and externally:

Training and Promotion: Establishment of specific goals and time tables within each department at Bell Atlantic for hiring, training and promotion of African Americans and other minorities and to make those goals a significant part of each manager's evaluation.

Workplace: Establish a substantive program within Bell Atlantic that goes beyond traditional diversity training to encourage tolerance, understanding and sensitivity by Bell Atlantic executives and managers. This effort should be monitored and should include but not

Recruiting Volunteers to 'Lend A Hand for New Jersey's Kids' November 15 on NJN

TRENTON—NJN will be asking its viewers to invest their time, money, to brighten the future of New Jersey's children during a unique volunteer recruitment telethon, *Lend A Hand for New Jersey's Kids*, broadcast live on NJN Public Television, on Saturday, Nov. 15 from 9 to 11 p.m.

New Jersey television, film and stage actor/comedian Joe Piscopo, one of the best-known regulars on Saturday Night Live and star of several blockbuster films as well as the Broadway hit revival, *Greatest*, will host the program with his 18-year-old son, Joey.

Joining Piscopo in the studio will be NJN's Sandra King, Arantides W. Georgantzas, Chairman of the NJN Foundation Board of Trustees; and Joseph Montano, Chairman of the New Jersey Public Broadcasting Authority Board of Commissioners, all exemplary volunteers who give generously of their time and talent.

Piscopo, a recipient of City New's 100 Most Influential, is enthusiastic about the program and what it can do to make a difference in a young person's quality of life. He heads the "Positive Impact" Foundation, and organization developed to promote positive social media for at-risk youth. He worked in conjunction with NJN on an information/message show geared in young people of the same name. Through these efforts, NJN Executive Director Elizabeth G. Christopherson said that he host the program.

"We have plans to have other events like this," he said. Having been an at-risk youth myself, I know how important it is to have the kind of personal help these kids need."

DeLoe "Buster" Soares, community leader and pastor of First Baptist

Church of Lincoln Gardens in Somerset and host of the PBS special, *Straight Up With Buster Soares*.

The program was inspired by the President's Summit for America's Future held in Philadelphia last April, which encouraged individuals, businesses and organizations to become more active in volunteerism to benefit children. NJN's two-hour special is a statewide response to this national commitment.

The program will feature pre-taped segments focusing on nearly 30 organizations in New Jersey and the Delaware Valley that work on behalf of children. In the studio, a house band composed of professional musicians volunteering their time and service will perform. Also in the studio will be musical performances from a host of New Jersey-based youth groups and artists.

Lend a Hand for New Jersey's Kids will also feature video spots with Governor Christine Todd Whitman and national celebrities, including Charlie Gibson of Good Morning America, film and television star Bob Reiner, NBA superstar and L.A. Laker Shaquille O'Neal, and members of the New Jersey Nets, who will be musical performers from a host of New Jersey-based youth groups and artists.

Members of the live studio audience, made up of mentors and the nation's youth volunteers and parents, will also share their inspiring success stories.

NJN has again joined forces with Jersey Cares, a Morris County agency promoting volunteerism, and other partners to develop a comprehensive volunteer resource directory listing more than 200 New Jersey organizations and community-based projects that serve children through mentoring

see LEND A HAND/PAGE B6

New laundry to create 400 jobs

NEWARK—A newly formed partnership involving the Saint Barnabas Health Care System and the Hospital Central Services Cooperative, Inc. in coordination with the City of Newark and the State of New Jersey promises to create up to 400 new jobs for area residents and is designed to produce opportunities for the Newark business community. Under the initiative, a new hospital laundry facility will be established in Newark which will handle all linen services for the Saint Barnabas Health Care System's acute care hospitals, nursing homes and ambulatory facilities in addition to HCSSC members.

Newark Mayor Sharpe James and Chief Executive Officer of Saint Barnabas Health Care System Ronald J. DeMauro

The laundry facility is scheduled to begin operation in fall 1998. The State of New Jersey will work with Hospital Central Services Cooperative on financing ISSBBS and economic incentives. In tandem with the state, local organizations and area churches, primarily based in the city's South Ward where Newark Beth Shalom Center is located, will be asked to help identify and recruit the workforce for the facility from Newark and surrounding towns.

"The Saint Barnabas Health Care System and Hospital Central Services Cooperative are excited to be working cooperatively with governments of the city and state in this major endeavor," said Mr. DeMauro.

Noting that the Saint Barnabas Health Care System is the third largest private employer in New Jersey, Mr. DeMauro said, "The Saint Barnabas Health Care System wants to set the standards and take the lead not only as the largest health care provider in the state and one of the largest in the country, but also as an employer. This project enables us to do both."

"Lives will be enriched as the result of the creation of jobs in the City of Newark," said Mayor Sharpe James. "Job opportunities give hope to individuals and families and allow more residents to prosper and grow." To move the project forward, the Saint Barnabas Health Care System and the Newark Economic Development Corporation are now working together to find an appropriate site to purchase or construct the laundry facility. A minimum of three acres will be required for a plant of approximately 80,000 to 100,000 square feet and the project is expected to generate \$8 million in salaries.

During the past two years, the Saint Barnabas Health Care System has demonstrated its commitment to the City of Newark and the community through a number of investments in the city. First with the purchase of New Beth Israel Medical Center in Children's Hospital of New Jersey, the revitalization project of Newark's South Ward and with the establishment of the Newark Center for Family Life. "This latest venture demonstrates the willingness of Saint Barnabas to take the lead in bringing jobs and economic vitality to the city's renaissance," said Reverend Watley.

The Saint Barnabas Health Care System's New Jersey-based facilities include 620-bed Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston; 596-bed Newark Medical Center in Toms River; 157-bed Irvington General Hospital; 350-bed Kimball Medical Center in Lakewood; 527-bed St. Joseph's Medical Center in Long Branch; 617-bed Newark Beth Israel Medical Center; 201-bed Union Hospital; 231-bed Wayne General Hospital; and 217-bed West Hudson Hospital in Kearny.

Among our nationally recognized services and facilities are New Jersey's first heart and lung transplant center; comprehensive cardiac surgery services for adults and children; the state's only heart-lung transplant center; and two of New Jersey's three kidney transplant centers.

Community Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

PHILADELPHIA, PA.—The 7th Annual Black Achievers Program Recognition Reception will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Girard College. For more info, call 215-963-3789.

JERSEY CITY—Peter Herbst will speak on "No More Secrets: Child Sexual Abuse" from 12:00 to 1 p.m., in the Formal Lounge (Room 217). For more info, call 201-200-3426.

PRINCETON—Dance Theatre of Harlem will be featured at the McCarter Theatre. For more info, call 888-278-7832.

PLAINFIELD—Cover letter/Thank-you letter writing workshop to be held at the YWCA from 10 a.m. to noon. For more info, call 908-759-3500.

PLAINFIELD—120 Years of Muhlenberg History - Exhibit opening and reception from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Drake House Museum. For more info, call 908-785-5831.

CRANFORD—Union County College will conduct a financial aid workshop in room H-211, Humanities Bldg. For more info, call 908-709-7503.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Verona resident, Carole Stone, has new book of poems published. She will be reading from her book at Page One at 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-655-4333.

NEW YORK, NY—The Christophers announce the eighth annual poster contest for high school students grades 9 - 12. Deadline for entries is Jan. 30, 1998. For more details, call 212-759-4050.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

NEWARK—Reading training for new volunteer tutors will be held at The Newark Public Library from 6 to 8 p.m. For more info, call 973-623-4001.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Montclair State University's Theatre Series continues with the stirring courtroom drama "Inherit the Wind" in Memorial Auditorium through the 15th. For more info, call 973-655-4333.

CALDWELL—Caldwell College provides an Adult Open House from 6-10 p.m. For more info, call 201-228-4424, ext. 209.

EDISON—The NAACP will hold a general meeting at Edison Job Corp at 7 p.m. For more info, call 732-595-9888.

NEW BRUNSWICK—A free public seminar on small claims court will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the NJ Law Center. For more info, call 1-800-FREE-LAW.

TEANECK—Holy Name Hospital is offering a Defensive Driving Course from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Community Health Services Building. For more info, call 201-953-3186.

JERSEY CITY—Jersey City State College will hold its annual "Fall Blood Drive" from 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 201-200-3456.

FLOPHAM PARK—Icove, NJ to celebrate 15th Anniversary with awards gala at the Park Avenue Club. For more info, call 908-781-2001.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

SOMERSET—You're invited to the Volunteer Conference at the DoubleTree Hotel from 2 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more info, call 732-297-8000.

CRANFORD—Union County College's Tonnasio Art Gallery will display the works of New York City realist painter, Fran Bealor in a new series, "Accidental Encounters," to be held through Dec. 19. For more info, call 908-709-7503.

WOODCLIFF LAKE—The 15th annual March of Dimes Harvest Ball to be held at Woodcliff Lake Hotel at 7 p.m. For more info, call 973-582-0700.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

MIDDLETOWN—The Monmouth County Park System will have a "biking clinic" at Tatum Park. For more info, call 732-642-4000.

BRANCHBURG—Arts and crafts will be presented during a Xmas craft show at the Branchburg Rescue Squad from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info, call 908-526-3430.

PATERSON—Craftshow and Lambert Castle restoration's special viewing benefits County Historical Society. For more info, call 201-881-2751.

ROSELLE—Ice skating lessons for people with disabilities will be held at The Warnance Park Skating Center. For more info, call 908-527-4900.

TV—NJN working to recruit volunteers to "Lend a hand for New Jersey's Kids", live volunteer recruitment telethon featuring Joe Piscopo airs on NJN from 9 to 11 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

NEWARK—Owari: A Counting Game from Africa, a Family game can be played at The Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

NEWARK—Science Lecture and Workshop Science Exploration: Birds of Prey and Raptors will be held at the Newark Museum. For more info, call 973-596-6550.

Local ministers attend outreach breakfast



Over 60 ministers attended the first Essex County Awareness Breakfast hosted by Essex County Executive James W. Treffinger recently. The Essex County Awareness Program is a community outreach effort to form a coalition between government and urban community leaders to foster unity and economic growth. Featured are, from left, Reverend J.A. Alopupa from the St Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Newark, Treffinger, and Wall Mohammed from the Masjid Mosque in Newark.

United Way fund drive sets goal at \$265,000



The United Way Essex and West Hudson Public Employees Charitable Campaign (PECC) is a combined fund-raising appeal conducted once a year among county, municipal and school employees who work in Essex and West Hudson counties. The goal this year is \$265,000. Funds benefit participating organizations and agencies of the United Way. Planning this year's PECC drive are, from left: Milton Balkum of Irvington, Campaign Manager; James W. Treffinger of Verona, Essex County Executive; Maria Vizeorondo DeSoto of Newark, President and Chief Executive Officer of the United Way of Essex and West Hudson; Patricia Hurt of Montclair, Essex County Deputy Administrator and co-chair of the PECC; and Thomas P. Giblin of Montclair, President of Local 68 International Union of Operating Engineers and Chairman of the PECC.

Union County honors IDCR employee Maryam Muhammed



Union County Freeholder Chairman Linda Slender, at right, presents a resolution to county employee Maryam Muhammed for successfully completing the Certificate in Public Management Program at Kean University. Muhammed, who works at the Department of Human Services' Intoxicated Driver Resources Center (IDRC) in Linden, is a resident of Hillsdale. "The Certificate in Public Management program is a partnership between County Government and our Union County's newest university," said Freeholder Chairman Slender. "These types of partnerships, and the willingness of County employees to further their education, will only strengthen both institutions and better serve the public."

Scholarship promotes urban literacy



Ines Jaramillo, at right, of North Bergen, a senior majoring in mathematics at Jersey City State College (JCSC), has been named the recipient of the College's first Maurion Robinson Scholarship. The scholarship, which is given to minority student who are in their senior year, is awarded to those who shows promise as either elementary or secondary school teachers with ability to develop literacy in urban children. Ms. Jaramillo was congratulated at a campus reception by Dr. Jill Lewis, chair of the JCSC department of Literacy Education and Gloria Boesman, at center, interim dean of professional studies and education.

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 120 East Longfellow Avenue
 321 East Northfield Avenue

LONG BRANCH:
 189 Broadway
MADISON:
 150 Springfield
 150 Main Street
MILLBURN:
 200 Main Street
NAVESINK:
 Highway 28 and Valley Drive
PLAINFIELD:
 130 Washington Avenue
SCOTCH PLAIN:
 227 East Avenue

SHORT HILLS:
 The Mall Upper Level
SPRINGFIELD:
 175 Main Street
 175 Main Street
SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS:
 Highway 71 and Western Avenue
TOMS RIVER:
 674 Pacific Blvd., Bay Plaza
 (Off the Garden)
UNION:
 375 7th Street
 375 7th Street
 375 7th Street

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NATIONAL

Compton first in state to ban alcohol and tobacco billboards

COMPTON, CA.—In October 1997 the Compton City Council passed an ordinance banning alcohol and tobacco advertising in most publicly visible locations, making it the first city in California to take such an action. Seven other communities, including Long Beach, Inglewood and the county of Los Angeles, have either passed or are considering passage of less restrictive ordinances which limited outdoor ads to within 500 to 1,500 feet of schools and churches. Compton's ordinance is the first to follow Baltimore and Chicago's action in actually banning such billboard advertising. Studies conducted by the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Science in the Public Interest show that the tobacco and alcohol industries not only target African-American and Latino communities, but the ads are more provocative and there are more of them than in White communities.

The Black Women's Media Project launched the campaign to restrict the billboards in April 1996. It included several presentations to the Compton City Council, organizing a letter writing campaign with allied women's organizations, working with community volunteers and through churches to collect 500 letters of support from citizens.

Jackson to Gingrich: Come to your census

WASHINGTON, D.C.—There is an ugly rumor floating around D.C., that Gingrich has traded the vote on fast track for the Administration's promise to back off the statistical sampling needed to correct for the "undercount" of African-American and Hispanics that occurs every census. If true, this would be a double cross: two for minorities—first, because their jobs are disproportionately vulnerable to NAFTA trade expansion, and second, because the usual census undercount unfairly limits black, brown, and urban political power. We hope this rumor is false. Jesse Jackson's National Coalition for the Administration not to cut such a deal citing that the consequences would be severe.

Third Annual National Penny Recycling Campaign underway

The Third Annual National Penny Recycling Campaign began Oct. 1 and continues through Dec. 31, 1997. Penny Lovers of America, Inc., a non-profit education and charitable organization, was formed in 1984 "to promote character, scholarship and patriotism among the nation's young people." The organization conducts the penny recycling campaign to raise scholarship funds for underprivileged and disadvantaged students struggling to get a college education. Greg Newman and Teresa Jones are two students from Washington, D.C. public schools who were recently selected the first scholarship recipients. Each received an award of 610 pounds of pennies or \$1000.

Secondly, pennies are collected to help alleviate the "penny shortage" plaguing many financial institutions, merchants and retail establishments.

A national goal of one million pounds of pennies has been established for this campaign. For more information call 732-873-3827.

INTERNATIONAL

Internet threatens Trinidad's postal service

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad and Tobago (IPS)—The advent of the Internet is being blamed for the diminishing importance of Trinidad's postal service.

For years, inadequate facilities, poorly managed operations and decreasing revenues have contributed to serious problems in the service. Now, with declining computer prices and greater Internet access—a situation fueled by keen competition among computer companies and Internet service providers—the postal service is facing an unprecedented challenge.

Consumers are finding that e-mail and private delivery services such as DHL International, Federal Express, and United Parcel International are faster, more reliable, and in the case of e-mail, cheaper. For instance it costs a Trinidadian 30 cents to mail a letter to the United States and 42 cents throughout the Caribbean. But depending on usage, sending an e-mail message could be a fraction of that, as on average it costs about \$11 per month for Internet service of up to 10 hours.

The postal service employs close to 1,300 persons.

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Report: Homeless kids get no preschool

WASHINGTON.—Of the two to three million Americans who are homeless each year, 27 percent are children. According to a report released at a Capitol Hill press conference recently, many of the youngest and most vulnerable are left behind as their peers go back to school because they lack access to public preschool programs.

"Preschool has proven to be a critical first step in a solid education, a step which can help end the unhappy cycle of poverty and homelessness," said Maria Foxcarini, Executive Director of the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty (NLCHEP), the organization which compiled the report. "Unfortunately, homeless children still do not always get the preschool education they deserve and which they are entitled to by U.S. law."

The Stewart B. McKinney Homelessness Assistance Act was

amended in 1994 to allow homeless children access to publicly funded preschool programs. The report, titled *Blocks to Their Future: A report on the barriers to Preschool Education for Homeless Children*, is the first comprehensive look at homeless children's access to these programs since the McKinney Act was amended. The report is based on a survey of 93 State Coordinators of Education for Homeless Children and Youth, early childhood administrators, family shelter providers provided to the survey.

The report finds that almost 50 percent of the family shelters surveyed saw few or none of eligible homeless children participate in preschool programs. Homeless preschoolers who do have access are more prepared for kindergarten and have the opportunity to acquire other comprehensive services that they may not otherwise receive.

Only 24 percent of the shelters surveyed have a preschool program, but they represent 64 percent of the programs that indicated that all or most of their residents attended preschool. When compared to other industrialized nations, the United States ranks near the bottom in the percentage of its children actually attending preschool.

Based on the findings, the report found that the McKinney Act has made a difference for homeless children. Nearly 40 percent of all respondents noted an increase in the number of homeless children participating in public preschool programs. Although some of this growth may be due to a rising number of homeless children, a large part of the growth is due to increased outreach efforts by the same state and local officials.

As a result of the report, the Law Center called for increased funding for the McKinney Act Education



Program and Head Start, vigorous monitoring and enforcement of compliance with the McKinney Act Education Program mandates by the U.S. Department of Education, and greater White House support.

American Legacy Magazine presents First Annual Heritage, History and Culture Awards

American Legacy magazine presented its first Heritage, History and Culture, and Museum Service Awards at a luncheon during the 19th Annual African-American Museums Association Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. Rodney J. Reynolds, Publisher of American Legacy, presented the first of what will become annual awards.

The Heritage Award, recognizing leadership, volunteerism and legal service to the arts, was presented to George L. Russell, Jr., Chairman of the Maryland Museum of African-American History and Cultural Commission. The History and Culture Award for presentation and preservation of African-American history was presented to Dr. Spencer R. Crew, Director of The National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution.

The Museum Service Award for preservation and promotion of African and African-American heritage was presented posthumously to Professor James E. Lewis, sculptor of the renowned Frederick Douglass memorial and founder of an African and African-American art collection, both located at Baltimore's Morgan State University. Lewis' widow, Jacqueline, accepted the award.

"American Legacy is proud to present its inaugural awards to these gentlemen to honor their outstanding



dedication and service to the preservation of African-American history, art and culture," Rodney Reynolds said.

The first annual American Legacy awards presentation was part of this year's National Conference of the African-American Museums Association. The AAMA is a non-profit membership organization dedicated to serving the interests and needs of Black museums and cultural institutions nationwide. Membership is comprised of museums, museum professionals, institutions, and individuals who share an interest in African-American art, culture and history.

American Legacy is the quarterly



George L. Russell, Jr., at right, Chairman, Maryland Museum of African-American History and Culture Commission received award from Rodney J. Reynolds, Publisher, American Legacy magazine, at that publication's first presentation of its Heritage, History and Culture and Museum Service

magazine that celebrates African-American history and culture. The current issue of American Legacy features a cover story by Wil

Haygood on Adam Clayton Powell, Jr., as well as a story about America's first Black Muslims.

Clinton convenes hate crimes conference

By Dr. Earl Ofari Eshelman
Special to the NNPA

In June three young Whites were arrested and charged with burning down a small Black church in Southeast Alabama. One of the suspects said, "Let's go burn the nigger church." The day before he had attended a local Klan rally.

The timing of the attack was significant. The week before, President Clinton in a national radio address vowed to "mount an all out assault on hate crimes" in America. Clinton assured that the assault would begin with his White House Conference on hate crimes on Nov. 10. At the conference, hate crime victims will tell of attacks on them, and law enforcement officials will testify about their efforts to put hate mongers out of business.

It's a noble effort, but victim's stories, moral appeals, and official pronouncements tell little about why hate crimes continue to terrify many African Americans. Two weeks before the conference the Imperial Klans of America mocked Clinton's call to end hate by inviting the "White public" to a day-long rally in Kentucky. There were bible-laced speeches, souvenir tables loaded with Klan caps, flags, cards, balloons and a ceramic statuette of a hooded Klansman with glowing red eyes. The rally closed with the burning of a giant cross. The media ignored them, law enforcement officials ridiculed them as a handful of pathetic crackpots, and civil rights organizations wrote their obituary.

Yet behind their circus antics, and apparent microscopic numbers hate groups like the Klan have grown since the Oklahoma City bombing in 1995, and are more dangerous than ever. At last count, there were 858 identifiable paramilitary groups operating in all 50 states. In 1996, they spent an estimated \$100 million on explosive manuals, weapons, and survival gear. They held "Preparedness Expo" in six cities that drew thousands of participants, visitors, and dozens of exhibitors. They had 250 web sites, and dozens of publications.

But what hasn't changed is that African Americans remain the number one target of hate violence, and are the victims of the most violent attacks.

In the more than 30 documented hate murders in 1995 and 1996 more than half the victims were Black. And despite deaths by some

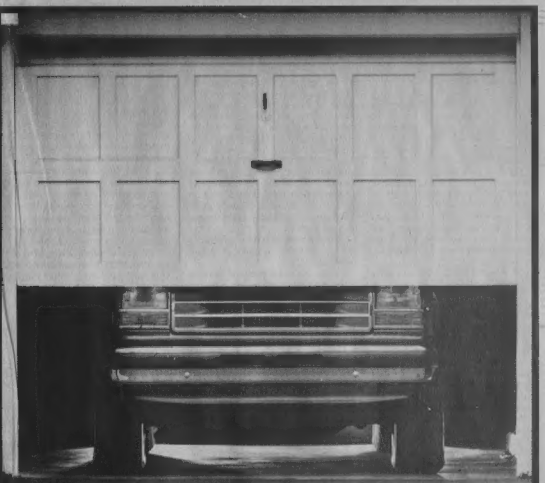
law enforcement officials, and much of the media, there was no evidence that some of the arson attacks on Black churches were part of an organized racist conspiracy.

After much pressure and protest from civil rights groups, Congress passed the Hate Crimes Statistics Act in April 1990. FBI officials promised that they would permanently count hate crimes in their annual Uniform Crime Report. The FBI has, but the number it reports annually are almost certainly vastly understated. Four out of five victims of hate crimes do not report them because they are too fearful or feel that the police and local officials will do little or nothing to protect them. There's a good reason for their worry.

The response to hate crimes from states, cities, and police agencies wildly vary. Under the Hate Crimes Act only 32 states submitted any data to the FBI on hate crimes in 1995, and only 17 states require reporting and recording of hate crimes separate from those required by the federal statute. Only 35 percent of all police agencies have hate task force units or specific procedures for dealing with hate crimes.

Eight states still have no laws on the books targeting racially motivated hate crimes. Some states allow hate violence to be prosecuted as "hate crimes," meaning the acts themselves can be punished, while others permit the prosecution of hate crimes only if they are committed in conjunction with another crime. Also, only a handful of states permit judges to increase penalties when racial bias is proven as a motive for the crime. While the number of racial hate crimes are much smaller than the millions of "common" crimes in America, the social and political damage they wreak is much greater. When individuals are victimized solely because of their race, this deepens racial hostility, frustration, resentment, "us vs. them" divisions between Whites and Blacks, and increases the danger of a racial explosion or violence. The turmoil following the Rodney King beating and the alleged sexual torture of Haitian immigrant, Abner Louima by White police officers are deadly examples.

It is evident that violent hate mongers are getting technologically advanced using bombs, guns, fast cars, threats, web sites, and publications to challenge blacks and ultimately the government.



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We're not going to have it

The NAACP's Executive Board this month asked for the resignation of four board members whose recent personal and legal conflicts have invited scrutiny of the NAACP board's ethics. We think, Chairman Myrtle Evelyn-Williams made the right decision to ask for their resignation. The NAACP, under Williams, has become a rebirth. She needs a board that can stand with her based on their integrity.

More important than the demand for their resignations is the fact that the NAACP stepped up to the plate and broke the silence that had made belief that the behavior of these individuals is acceptable in the black community. It is not.

In fact, they should be used as examples of abuse of power. Some may argue that "Everyone does it, they just get caught." It's time we stop using this excuse for people who have the respect and trust of black people then turn around and totally ignore their responsibilities for personal gain.

Yes, everyone makes mistakes, but when those mistakes deliberately take advantage of people who have placed their trust and their possessions in someone's hand to protect and use in a responsible manner, that person should pay for his or her mistake.

There is so much silence and so much tolerance in the black community that anyone we as a group have begun to defend our morality—a people who have worked hard and tirelessly to show our moral fortitude. From the NAACP on the corner to the local politician seen only at election, to the community leader out for self alone, we must speak out against their unscrupulous behavior. We must use the action of the NAACP as an example of what we can and must do to set the record straight for ourselves first and for our reputation as moral, decent people.

The Liberal Peacetime "Bamboozle"

By Asla Muhammad

There is a crisis in the liberal ideology. The crisis exists because liberals have been bamboozled, hoodwinked, lied to.

President Bill Clinton gave American liberals the kind of "warm, fuzzy feeling" they so enjoy recently when he traveled back to Little Rock, Arkansas to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the integration of that city's Central High School. "It was a very important occasion, I believe, and one of the things of us who were there that day is immensely rewarding," the President told a meeting of his Race Advisory Board Sept. 30.

Well, I grew up in the skeletal 1960s. During that time, many of us, both White and Black, proudly called ourselves "progressive" and "revolutionary." Then, we considered "liberals"—like Vice President Hubert Humphrey—to be sell-outs. Indeed, many of us were even suspicious of the associated Sen. Robert F. Kennedy. And, men, are now of course, icons, and their liberal-ness is considered to be the political mainstream are decidedly considered to be legendary.

Now, while I fully realize how difficult it is to accomplish progressive change within this ideological, reactionary society, I do realize that many of us who called ourselves progressives in the 1960s did not allow our vision to dim in the face of the racist, conservative American ideal.

So, what happened? Why are liberals cheering the President of the United States? And why are they cheering the President of the United States? And why are they cheering the President of the United States?

Houston yes!, Hatch no!

By Jesse Jackson, Sr.

HOUSTON, TX—Election day brought some good news, by way of the Lone Star State. The very last state to surrender to the Civil War has become the normal place where one would begin the search for justice and equity.

And, as a, however, I am not a native Houston resident, but by voting to preserve the state's affirmative action program, directly proving that not all Americans are racist, and that Texas voters have now acted more decently than Pete Wilson's followers.

Now, the Houston vote demonstrates that the leadership vote demonstrates that, on a side of a broad coalition, can make a huge difference. Mayor Bob Lanier stood strong on the side of justice in this battle, making the case to preserve and protect affirmative action. He didn't end it; he defended it. The contrast with the Democratic Party and the Clinton Administration is stark. Mayor Lanier's stand is a shining example of the courage of other prominent Democrats has remained in hiding.

The this initiative victory in Houston reminds us that an early start is critical to our ability to overcome the other side's huge funding advantage. This early start will be vital to our ultimate five-action right wing moves to other states next year, such as Florida, Colorado, and Washington.

Fourth, this victory reminds us that we can win if we stay focused on our priorities. Reverend Jackson spent the last weekend before the election in Texas not working the churches to boost voter turnout. This election was the most important one on the ballot for those inter-

Hoover doing their dirty work, that we can now trust the Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Armed Forces, the F.B.I., and the U.S. Navy were so comfortably suspicious of whoever was in that office before.

My knee-jerk answer to that question is "No." It's a collage. A collage, however, helped me understand what constitutes the "liberal dream."

Liberals, my friend assisted, function best when there is a crisis in the land—in wartime. We're now living in peacetime, and liberals are confused because the clear "anti-war" insights they offer, are moot. Just as conservatives are out of phase because America is the only superpower, liberals are out of sync because even this country's "hawks" are "kinder and gentler."

What is a crisis for which liberals can distinguish themselves? For example, even anti-racists, can quote Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., saying people should be judged by the content of their character, not the color of their skin," when they do the non-existent "color-blind society" as they state their opposition to race-based solutions. To compensate millions of injured parties for centuries of racial discrimination.

Just as the NAACP raised the question about the wisdom of continuing to swallow the 90-year-old (and by now discredited) White-supremacist notion of "integration," the NAACP should now stand up and defend the color. Liberals, especially integrationists, like music and, especially, integrate. Like music and, especially, integrate. Like music and, especially, integrate.

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labor organizing the black poor

By Dr. Manning Marable

Since the passage of the draconian 1966 welfare bill, the survival of several million poor women and children, the majority of whom are black and Latinos, became at risk. Hundreds of thousands of Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) recipients have been forced into various "workfare" schemes. In New York City, for example, many AFDC recipients are required to work 20 or more hours each week in order to receive their modest payments.

These women usually work in jobs normally associated with the lowest wages: cleaning public toilets and streets, mopping hospital floors, picking up litter in subway stations. Few women receive proper equipment for their jobs. Health and safety safeguards are virtually nonexistent. Frequently women assigned to work outside are not even provided with toilet facilities.

Several decades ago, the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now, known as AOCORN, began building a progressive, human rights movement among America's poorest and most oppressed people. Today AOCORN has over 200,000 members. In its latest initiative, AOCORN began a campaign in New York City to demand a fair representation status for workfare workers.

This October, New York City's 35th City Council is expected to give the choice to determine whether they desired to have union representation. Over a period of four days, about 1,500 people gathered at 250 polling sites across the city.

NAACP in support of a million women

By Kwesi Mfume

Last month in Philadelphia, women from all over America, dedicated themselves to the ideal of family, sisterhood, community and the wisdom of community.

The NAACP was proud to be one of the many supporters of this march as thousands of our members and supporters in the beautiful, throng of black women.

We participated as an organization because we believe in the goals and the mission of the Million Women March. We took pride in supporting the women who gathered in Philadelphia and in each of their respective cities to collectively reach being there.

As someone who spoke at and was inspired by the Million Women March, I was equally supportive of the women of color nationwide who came together with a positive plan of action for the future.

A stronger, expected turnout is another sign of the tremendous well-spring of good intentions and good intentions in our community as we move together in the White House, and in the myriad of problems facing America and especially people of color.

For me, the Million Women March is the renewed interest in matters of the soul and spirit was both obvious and long overdue.

With man's take on property taxes

By Governor Christine Todd Whitman

Total state aid to help reduce property taxes has gone up in every single county in New Jersey during my administration, combining for a total of more than \$500 million in additional property tax relief. In Union County alone, it's gone up by more than \$80 million.

New Jersey history has proved over and over again, property taxes rarely go down. Not even when Governor Florio signed into law a record \$1.5 billion state aid package.

That being the case, I chose to provide savings to the taxpayers by cutting the income tax. That's a tax I can directly affect because it is levied by the state. If I hadn't, property taxes, which are collected at the local level, still would have gone up, and the taxpayers of our state would also be paying higher income taxes on top of them.

But during my administration, we have had a record income tax cut and the lowest property tax increase in 25 years.

Although the State does not control local and county property taxes, we have taken steps to provide relief where we can have the greatest effect. For example, we made property taxes deductible against our state income taxes. While the last administration eliminated the deduction for property taxes on state income taxes, we put it back in this year. This one measure means that, by 1998, homeowners will get \$200 million in a year in direct tax relief.

Most of the income in state aid is

the good news is development

By Gabrielle Kurlander

The Senate is scheduled to take action soon on "The Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Act of 1997," part of a package of proposed justice legislation.

Predictably, the debate will take place along the old political fault line. On one side are conservatives of both parties who favor a "get tough on crime" stance featuring harsher sentencing and more prisons. On the other side are liberals, who urge that more government money be spent on "stop the violence" programs.

This fog of political rhetoric obscures some of the unspoken assumptions that shape our understanding of what violence is and, therefore, what kind of approach is most effective.

Violence, for example, is not new. Nor is it an aberration. From the revolution that founded our country to the Vietnam War, the United States has been as American as apple pie. Still, many Americans feel very strongly that somehow violence is not the same as it was in the 1960s. It's taken on new place in our daily lives. Some people point to the fact that children are bringing guns and knives to school, others cite the proliferation of violence on television and in the movies.

Historically, violence occurred in

the context of an America that was growing, prospering, progressing, developing—economically, politically, and culturally. Consequently, violence was generally counteracted or outweighed by the constructive thrust of American life. That is no longer the case.

With economic and social development at a standstill, violence is often all that's happening. Decades of economic stagnation and racism that you can't just "stop the violence" by throwing more tax dollars into the pot. Similarly, the evidence indicates that even the harshest "tough on crime" legislation has had little impact on violence.

The good news is development. Innovative programs—dependent of government—are starting-up of development of tens of thousands of inner city youngsters in some of New York City's poorest neighborhoods, these same neighborhoods have witnessed an unprecedented downturn in crime and violence.

The two traditional approaches to violence are equally bankrupt. While they may prove useful for politicians and the media, they are leaving poor people who keep them in their children to do with developing the lives of young people and future of America.

Gabrielle Kurlander is president of the non-profit Community Library Research Project, Inc.

Part Promise of Kepters Watch as well as pray

By Congressman Jesse L. Jackson, Jr.

Recently, hundreds of thousands of religious American males were on display at the Promise Keepers' "Stand In The Gap" rally in the nation's capital. What could possibly be the reason for men, many of whom are not Christians, praying and pledging to be better Christians with the goal of becoming better and more responsible husbands and fathers and active members of their local church? Nothing that I can see.

There is certainly nothing wrong with men exercising their First Amendment rights in peacefully assembling and to enjoy the freedoms of speech and religion. There is absolutely nothing wrong with acknowledging that we have local churches, we recognize our weaknesses, confess our sins before God and the public and vow, with God's help, to change our ways to do better and to be better men in the future.

There is nothing wrong with any of the religious groups that are active in our society. However, there seemed to be more to it than that. For one thing, there seemed to be, if not false, religious teaching going on, and respected, educated and knowledgeable religious leaders. They engaged in religious teaching that used biblical texts to tell their historical and contemporary contexts, which may suggest a pretext for something more.

But, theologically and biblically, that is exactly what the Promise Keepers' leaders represent. They are the fundamentalist and conservative theologians and biblical interpreters who take texts literally, out of context, with the pretext of preaching and teaching an inerrant, infallible, uncreated, pure and personal (only) God. They ignore the social Gospel. Historically, that's who these men are!

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Keepers "leaders" irresponsibly fail to acknowledge or teach that difference.

Women now need to be priests, pastors and preach in pulpits. These demands come from a feminist and womanist theology and biblical interpretation born of experiences of denial and oppression from conservatism and the traditional Christian church.

As Christians, we all read the same Bible, but our biblical interpretation and application of the Bible are different. It was Martin Luther's experiences with Roman Catholicism that led to a critique (95 Theses) that began the Protestant Reformation.

The Promise Keepers deny the legitimacy of most, if not all, theological and biblical interpretations that acknowledge that we have local churches, we recognize our weaknesses, confess our sins before God and the public and vow, with God's help, to change our ways to do better and to be better men in the future.

That which, in the past, has been identified as "religious" and "Christian" has not always been liberating and quite often has been oppressive. In South Africa it was the Dutch Reformed Christian Church that practiced the religious foundation for apartheid. In the United States, it was the Southern Baptists and other mainline churches that practiced and theologized against the poor and Jim Crow. The Ku Klux Klan identified itself as a Christian organization. It was white Christian ministers who attacked Dr. Martin Luther King in Birmingham, Alabama for fighting racism that brought forth his "Letter From A Birmingham Jail." At our founding, the American people owned slaves and defined African Americans as three-fifths human in our Constitution, they committed genocide against the Native Americans and stole their land, and they denied women the right to vote. In Congress today, many who call themselves religious and Christian, vote against laws to provide food, health care, housing, jobs, education and an equal opportunity to millions of Americans. There's an old Negro Spiritual that speaks to this. It says, "Everybody's talkin' 'bout heaven ain't goin' there."

Jesse L. Jackson, Jr. is a second term congressman from the Second Congressional District of Illinois

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BUSINESS CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

MARTINSVILLE—1997 Recognition of Business People Awards Luncheon at the Martinsville Inn. For more info, call 908-725-1552.

ISELIN—CREW's 15th Anniversary Celebration, 1st Annual Awards Dinner at the Park Avenue Club at 5:30 p.m. For more info, call 908-654-6664.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

WAYNE—A professional development workshop will be held at William Paterson University from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more info, call 975-720-2436.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

NEW YORK—Team-Based Work System: How to Design Them; How to Make Them Work. Seminar held at the AMA Headquarters. For more info, call 1-800-282-9699.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18

PLAINFIELD—TWIN (Tribute to Women and Industry) program announces its Women in management discussion group's second session "Women's Influence and Its Place in the Workplace." For more info, call 908-756-3836.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

FAIRFIELD—The NJ Conference for Women at the Ramada Inn. For more information, call (800) 682-5078.

WEST ORANGE—BOA/IMA is hosting a seminar on the rules, regulations of real estate at the Mayfair. For more info, call 201-998-6385.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

BRIDGEWATER—Rewarding employees with non-monetary incentives will be presented from 7:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. For more info, call 908-758-1552.

BRIDGEWATER—Rewarding employees with non-monetary incentives, an informative breakfast forum held at Jack O'Connor's Quality Beef & Seafood Restaurant at 7:45 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. For more info, call 908-725-1552.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

ISELIN, NJ—Controlling Workers' Compensation costs - seminar presented at the Sheraton. For more info, call 609-393-7707, ext. 213.

UNION-A "Software Open House" demonstrates many features of EDI Software - is offered from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Union County Economic Development Corporation. To register, call 908-527-1166.

BLUE BELL, PA—A general meeting will be held for the Delaware Valley Minority Business Resources Council's elections for Board of Directors from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at Aetna/US Healthcare. For more info, call 215-893-9977.

NEWARK—The Rutgers Small Business Development Center will offer a seminar on "How to Write an Effective Business Plan" at 51 East St., Room 309. For more info, call 973-553-9950.

SOMERSET—Northeast Regional Printing & Imaging Expo will be held at the Garden State Convention Center through the 22nd. For more info, call 1-800-817-4590.

For your business announcements, call us at **City News at 908-753-1036**

GM accused of driving Black auto dealers out of business

By Lisa Washington, Jr.
NNPA Correspondent

A White accounting supervisor for General Motors walked into a Kansas City GM dealership, owned by Richard Wallace and boldly declared that this "nigger won't be around much longer." Wallace no longer owns the GM dealership and he blames discriminatory practices by officials at America's largest automobile manufacturer for the demise of his business.

Dan Barnes had owned a Ford automobile dealership when he headed off to Detroit a few years ago with high hopes of fulfilling the dream of landing a General Motors auto dealership. With the experience in retail car sales management and available cash required for GM's Minority Dealer Development Program, Barnes seemed like a qualified candidate.

But during his Motor City meeting, Barnes said he was "cursed out and chased away" by a top GM executive who constantly referred to "you people." Dan Barnes was denied a dealership yet he is lucky that he was just verbally assaulted.

One Black GM executive was beaten bloody by a White GM counterpart a few years ago after he became a target of treatment meted out to a Black dealer.

Entrepreneur's Corner

How to identify, hire and keep high-profit employees

By Pierre A. Clark
Special from NNPA

One of the most important responsibilities you have as a business owner is hiring employees to assist you in servicing your clients and distributing the products your firm sells.

Hiring employees is a daunting task for nearly every entrepreneur. The job of interviewing and evaluating potential candidates is tricky, because the process of selecting these individuals you believe will bring the greatest level of skill, dependability and conscientiousness to their duties is more art than science, a judgment call at best.

You can't, as one man said, "call them all." Evaluating candidates is not an exact science. You'll make some mistakes, but your instincts will ultimately be your best guide in whom you hire. Evaluating potential employees and staff members is an acquired skill; you'll learn by trial and error how to determine who is the right kind of employee for your business; how to evaluate the kinds of positions new hires should hold, and what things make employees happy.

But evaluating and hiring staff members is not your greatest challenge—it's keeping them. Talented employees are in high demand in this booming economy, and employees feel less loyalty to a company than in previous years. Yet the truth is that few employees accept a job with the intention of leaving. Any employee that accepts a position at your firm invariably does so because he/she wants to work there and sees a profitable and satisfying future. So what are the factors that will keep them working for you and working hard? There are really only five things that most employees want.

"To work in an attractive environment."
"To have their opinions and ideas heard and considered."
"To be told the truth about your company's financial health and

This beating took place in the back seat of a car as three GM executives, including the Black man, were returning from a corporate meeting.

Other Blacks who have participated in GM's Minority Dealer Development Program have been driven into bankruptcy by what they contend is GM's discriminatory financing, racist and racist consumer credit practices.

"This is a story about racism, intimidation, coercion and abuse," notes Richard Wallace, a leading critic of GM's Minority Dealer Development Program.

"GM puts Black dealers in poor locations with too much debt and you're bound to fail," continued Wallace, in a recent NNPA interview. "GM is a vicious beast...what they do to us is immoral at best." However, GM spokesman, Ed Lechtritz stresses that the company has a number of "successful [Black] dealers who are comfortable with the program." GM was the first auto maker to institute a Minority Dealer Development Program yet a recent article published in a Gannett-owned newspaper notes that GM has the smallest percentage of Black dealerships among the "Big Three" manufacturers that include Ford and Chrysler.

Only 1.3 percent of GM's 8,234

dealerships are Black-owned.

Problems, with GM's 28-year old Minority Dealer Development Program were detailed in the investigative article published by Gannett Suburban newspapers in West Chester County, NY.

The article described top GM executives liberally using the "N-word" and treating many Black GM dealers in a discriminatory manner that included "an uneven level of financial support." The article on GM's minority program was written by Demetrius Patterson, the reporter who exposed the corporate racism at Texaco, including the infamous "N-word" tape recording.

Patterson's article examined experiences of Black dealers across the country like Charles Bell, a former Alabama dealer, who won a multi-million dollar jury verdict after proving that GM's consumer credit financing arm discriminated against his customers. The article reports on a \$357 million lawsuit filed last year by suburban New York City dealer Dick Gidon who alleges in part that GM did not provide him with subsidies comparable to the assistance given to White Cadillac dealers in his market area.

GM's Minority Dealer Development Program is "littered with financial failures," the article concluded, stating that the "dealers' grievances take

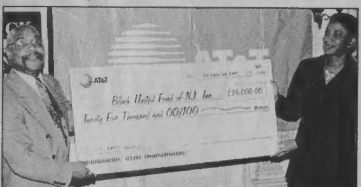
many forms, ranging from an overall fear of retribution to an outright resentment of isolated racial epithets uttered by GM managers." Meanwhile, Lechtritz says the Gannett article is "very one-sided [and] not reflective of the relationship we have with minority dealers." GM, this past August, retained a law firm in Washington, D.C., to conduct a comprehensive review of the program, aimed in part at increasing the number of profitable minority dealers.

"I congratulate GM on the effort to look at the program and make it the best it can be. No one in the industry wants a revolving door type of situation," said

Shelia Vaden-Williams, executive director of the National Association of Minority Automobile Dealers (NAMAD). The association is working with the law firm on the GM audit. However, Wallace contends that GM won't change its treatment of Black dealers until it feels "the heat of a Black community threat to not buy GM cars and GM parts."

Lisa Washington, Jr., a graduate of the Yale Law Journalism Fellowship Program, is writing a book on police brutality in Philadelphia.

A & T give BUF \$25,000 check



Mercedes Walton of AT&T recently presented a \$25,000 check to Lloyd Odell, President of the Black United Front of New Jersey. The grant from AT&T will help underwrite the cost of BUF/NJ's 1997 Charitable Campaign to raise \$1 million.

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Gloucester	41,040	Passaic	52,240
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Knowledge of tax bracket helps make investment decisions

Many people wonder what tax bracket they are in. This is especially important to know when you're making a choice between a taxable investment (e.g., corporate bond) or a tax-free alternative (e.g., municipal bond). You want to choose the investment that provides the highest after-tax return.

Below is a list of individual tax rates for 1997. To find your tax bracket, simply select one of the four filing status categories that applies to your household and locate the appropriate income range. Note that these figures are taxable income, which is the figure that you look up in the tax table after subtracting available deductions, exemptions, and credits.

Note that there are also higher marginal tax brackets, 36 percent and 39.6 percent.

Individual Tax Rate Schedules for 1997

Taxable Income Tax Rate			
Married Filing Jointly:			
\$0 to \$41,200	15%	\$41,201 to \$99,600	28%
\$99,601 to \$151,750	31%	\$151,751 to \$313,300	36%
\$313,301 to \$412,500	39.6%		
Head of Household:			
\$0 to \$20,600	15%	\$20,601 to \$35,750	28%
\$35,751 to \$51,400	31%	\$51,401 to \$77,575	36%
\$77,576 to \$114,650	39.6%		
Single:			
\$0 to \$20,600	15%	\$20,601 to \$35,750	28%
\$35,751 to \$51,400	31%	\$51,401 to \$77,575	36%
\$77,576 to \$114,650	39.6%		
Married Filing Separately:			
\$0 to \$20,600	15%	\$20,601 to \$35,750	28%
\$35,751 to \$51,400	31%	\$51,401 to \$77,575	36%
\$77,576 to \$114,650	39.6%		

Next, add your effective state tax

Effective state tax rate x State tax = Effective state tax rate x State tax

For example, if you are in the 6% New Jersey tax bracket and the 28% federal tax bracket, your effective state and local tax bracket would be 4.32% (100% - 28%) x 6% = 4.32%.

Next, add your effective state tax

Sickle Cell support group to begin at East Orange General

EAST ORANGE—East Orange General Hospital recently announced the beginning of a patient support group for people suffering from sickle cell anemia and their families. A kickoff program and workshop on Sickle Cell was recently held to discuss treatment and a greater understanding of the disease and its affect on those who suffer.

Sickle Cell Support Group was founded by EOGH nurse Deborah Rodd. Several members from the Ms. Rodd's family suffer from the disease. The guest speaker for the kickoff program was hematologist Elita Rogers-Phillips, M.D. Dr. Rogers-Phillips has been practicing for over many years.

Ms. Rodd said, "The idea to create a Sickle Cell Anemia Support Group has been long in the making. I am glad that we have support of the hospital, physicians, staff and the community to provide a resource for people suffering from Sickle Cell Anemia." Ms. Rodd organized today's program and will serve as the administrator of the Support Group, which will meet once a month at the hospital. The first two meetings scheduled are for Saturday, November 29 and Saturday, December 27, both from 2 to 3 p.m. at East Orange General Hospital.

Dr. Rogers-Phillips said it is extremely important that physicians, nurses and others caring for Sickle Cell patients have a good understanding of the disease and the important roles lifestyle, diet and nutrition and pain management play in their day-to-day living. She said pain can and very often is a large part of the daily life of a Sickle Cell sufferer. She added, "It is extremely important to recognize what is pain and what is not, so that they may be treated and handled accordingly."

For more information about the Sickle Cell Support Group, call 201-266-4577.

Why are black men afraid of therapy?

By Mitchell E. Gibson, M.D., P.C.
Special to the NJPA

Carl is a 47-year-old Black attorney. He is married, has two Black children, and is not worth of well over \$3 million. Tonight, after work, Carl plans to go home, have dinner with his family, make love to his wife, then retire to his study where he will place a revolver in his head and end his life. No one will know why he did it.

In 1994, over 2,000 Black men killed themselves. The vast majority of them did not seek potentially life-saving psychotherapy or talk to anyone about the stresses which led to such a desperate act. Traditionally, Black males have made up a very small percentage of the outpatient populations of most mental health practices. Yet, the stresses on the African-American male in the United States are enormous. They include high unemployment, high divorce rates, high rates of incarceration, a homicide rate 20 times the national average and shortened life expectancy (66.6 years). With all these pressures, why then do Black men shy away from getting therapy?

As a Black male psychiatrist I have seen first hand both sides of the issues which plague the Black male. In my practice, it is a rare occurrence to see a Black male voluntarily come into therapy for any reason. However, when they do, it is often with much fear and trepidation. The fact that I am a Black male helps to some degree, but the same issues continue to surface as reasons for

their general resistance and fear.

The multitude of environmental and social stresses which are unique to the American Black male have served over the decades to effectively launch a massive assault on our collective conscious and unconscious mind energies. The system which is ostensibly designed to protect and defend Black men from this assault has at times been the instrument of many unspeakable legally sanctioned acts (i.e., public lynchings, police brutality, racially discriminatory public policies (Jim Crow laws) and a spate of experiments (i.e., Miss Evers' boys). This often fatal irony has left a indelible mark on the most basic survival instincts of every Black male in America. In effect, each and every time a Black male interfaces with the system, i.e., through the courts, the police, and the medical system, at some level he believes that his life and well-being will be endangered.

Unfortunately, this fear has all too often been based on bitter past experience, either vicarious or direct. Faced with these pressures and the perception that medical/psychiatric help could lead to further loss of control over one's life and well-being, the American Black male more often than not will choose to avoid the conflict all together and take matters into his own hands if necessary. Such an approach could be viewed as a form of fatal narcissism which could ultimately allow a problem to grow to unnecessarily large proportions.

However, when faced with his-

torically ambiguous and often ambivalent support systems, narcissistic self-preservation and self-determined action is a logical alternative. In other words, "I can do bad by myself" seems to be a reasonable point of view when faced with unreasonable options.

In the hands of an experienced, competent, practical psychotherapist, the multitude of environmental and social stresses which are unique to the American Black male have served over the decades to effectively launch a massive assault on our collective conscious and unconscious mind energies.

From the perspective of my own therapy and from the perspective of doing therapy with thousands of clients, there are some useful suggestions which might help combat the fear and reservation which attends the idea of going to a therapist.

1. Pick a therapist that you think you might be able to trust. Church groups, state licensing boards, colleagues and friends are useful sources for ideas about good therapists.
2. After you have chosen a therapist, make a pact with yourself to see him or her at least once.
3. Write down all of your fears about the therapy and discuss them with the therapist in the first session. Be honest about your fears and expectations and give the process a chance to work.
4. Tell one close friend or associate that you are seeing a therapist. There are still a great many negative stereotypes surrounding psychotherapy and sharing the fact that you are seeing a therapist with the wrong person can lead to shame and embarrassment. However, the support of a good and caring friend can add to the healing process.

Fighting Colon cancer

Surpassing both breast and prostate cancer, colon cancer is second only to lung cancer as a cause of cancer death in America. Yet, it is one of the most preventable types of cancer, and curable when detected early.

The statistics

- About 131,200 new cases of colon cancer are diagnosed each year.
- Approximately 54,900 people die of colon cancer each year.
- Over a lifetime, colon cancer will strike one in 17 Americans.
- Each married couple has a 1 in 10 chance that either spouse will develop colon cancer. The incidence is roughly equal in men and women.
- The risk begins to increase after age 40, and the vast majority of those afflicted with colon cancer are over age 50.
- The annual medical costs of colon cancer in the U.S. are over \$8.8 billion.

Who is most at risk?

People with a family history of colon cancer; those with a personal history of precancerous growths in the colon and rectum; those who have already been treated for colon

cancer; and individuals with a history of inflammatory bowel disease.

How does it develop?

Colon cancer results from the growth of cells in the colon, called polyps, which remain harmless but over the years may grow and undergo an array of cell changes that lead to malignancy. High animal fat diets consisting of little fiber may increase the risk of malignancy.

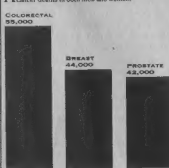
Prevention is key

- There are several things you can do to help prevent colon cancer from developing. Here are a couple tips.
- Diet (consuming foods low in fat and high in fiber)
- Regular screenings
- Early removal of polyps

Sources: The American Cancer Society, The American College of Gastroenterology, The National Cancer Institute.

COLON CANCER: THE #2 CANCER KILLER

A far lung cancer, colon cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in both men and women.



The Hospital Center at Orange

Barnhardt, Hackett to serve on Board of Trustees

ORANGE—The Hospital Center at Orange has announced that Orange Councilman Allen Barnhardt and local attorney Michael A. Hackett have been appointed to the hospital's board of trustees.

The appointments for Barnhardt and Hackett are effective immediately. Harold G. Sterling, chairman of the HCO Board of Trustees said in announcing the new appointments,

"The addition of Allen Barnhardt and Michael Hackett to the HCO Board of Trustees re-emphasizes the board's deep commitment to providing quality health care services to the community we serve. Both new appointees have long demonstrated their concern for the local community and we welcome the energy and insight they bring to HCO."

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Plainfield volunteers take over the streets

At the start of 1997, John R. Kopicki, president & CEO at Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center challenged each of the 1,700 employees of the medical center to reach out and make a difference by committing at least one hour of their time to community service.

This challenge was adopted as an organizational goal for 1997. Since then over 500 employees have enjoyed the rewards and rigors of community service.

"Our employees are finding out that giving through community service can make a difference in the lives of others and be an enriching experience," states Kopicki. "The gift of time, self and caring are the most valuable assets any of us have to offer."

According to Kopicki, Muhlenberg has a long tradition of serving its community from within and outside the walls of the medical center. From an ongoing speakers' bureau to major health education events from health fairs to teddy bear clinics from service for local community organizations to educational medical center tours, and much more. The 1997 community benefit goal helps mobilize our efforts and encompasses every Muhlenberg employee in service to the community.

The YWCA of North Plainfield and Muhlenberg Hospital are just two of the half-dozen organizations that have joined the Adopt-A-Street program. To reach the goal of a litter-free city, both the Y and Muhlenberg have taken an active part.

"The group was very energetic from the moment they arrived for duty, proudly wearing their Muhlenberg T-shirts bearing the medical center's slogan 'Your Partner for Healthier Living,'" states Walter Dilts, assistant vice president who implemented Adopt-A-Street program at Muhlenberg Hospital in conjunction with vice president Shirley Higgins Bowers. "Each participant took personal ownership of the project and felt good knowing that they took an extra step, outside of their routine job responsibilities, to help our community," adds Mrs. Bowers.

"Finding ways to provide a community service is easy when you're in the business of caring," says Pat Nevar, director of Community Benefits. "Muhlenberg sponsors a variety of health fairs and preventive screenings created to help keep the community healthy. We rely on our team of health care professionals to volunteer their services to make these events possible." Earlier in the year a Health-Fest held at the Bridgewater Commons Mall was staffed by more than 50 employees who volunteered their time and expertise to provide various health screenings, a teddy bear clinic and health information at no cost to shoppers, she adds.

"Fulfilling the 1997 community service goal helps build a healthy and prosperous community. In addition to providing people with positive experiences and personal rewards, service to the community helps make a difference in the lives of our neighbors," Kopicki concludes.

The options to meet the challenge are endless. Recently, registered nurses from the Intensive Care Unit (ICU) worked in conjunction with Flannigan's Restaurant in South Plainfield to provide its customers with free blood pressure screenings. More than 50 were screened that evening.

"After brainstorming as a group the staff nurses decided to take an

innovative approach to reach out to people that may fall into a high risk group," explains, Pat Brennan, nurse manager of the ICU. "Their presence at Flannigan's helped build awareness, and gave the nurses the opportunity to educate the community at the same time."

Others have chosen to take part in programs that do not apply directly to their job skills but meet the hospital's mission of contributing to the well-being of the community. Through the

Adopt-A-Street Program, a team of employees is helping Muhlenberg meet its ongoing commitment to keep the streets surrounding the medical center's campus clean.

"This is an exciting and rewarding program in which we can be involved," says Philip A. Brown, senior vice president and COO who introduced Muhlenberg to the program, which is sponsored by the Plainfield Business Development Corporation.



Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center employees participate in Plainfield's Adopt-a-Street program.

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are
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—Stacey Merkler
Colonia, NJ

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Careers Dietetics positions on the rise

CHICAGO—The number of students preparing for careers in nutrition and dietetics continues to expand as career opportunities blossom, according to The American Dietetic Association (ADA), the nation's largest organization of food and nutrition professionals.

In 1990, nearly 12,000 students were enrolled in accredited/approved undergraduate programs in dietetics. By 1995, that number had increased to more than 18,000 students—including many ethnic minorities and men—in a traditionally female dominated field.

Jacqueline Saracino, R.D. (registered dietitian), chair of ADA's diversity committee said, "Nutrition professionals are uniquely qualified to translate nutrition science from the textbook to the table. It is unfortunate that many ethnic populations with high rates of nutrition-related diseases are the least represented by nutrition professionals within their own communities," said Saracino. "We're hopeful these numbers and the number of men pursuing careers in nutrition continue to increase."

Students pursuing careers in dietetics study a variety of courses, including food and biological sciences, chemistry, math, communication and business management.

To obtain more information on careers in dietetics contact: ADA Network Team, Dept. DCR, 216 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, Ill. 60606, call 800-877-1600, ext. 4897, or access ADA's Home Page at [HTTP://www.eating.org](http://www.eating.org)

HEARTBEAT

Your guide to healthy living

Internet Site urges kids not to smoke

SOUTH BRUNSWICK—Senior Services Commissioner Len Fishman today unveiled the state's first web site designed to talk to kids in a fun, non-preachy, sometimes gross and irreverent way, about the dangers of using tobacco products.

The new site—www.dontgetsucked.com—is home to a cool and confident teenager, Lucas, who helps steer a younger, more impressionable Zak safely away from Scutellibush, a sinister, smoke-billowing cigarette, and his ever-present and equally dangerous companion, The Tar Monster.

Our web site challenges tobacco advertising images that portray smoking as glamorous," said Commissioner Fishman. "We want kids to see the truth—smoking is unhealthy, unattractive and addicting," Fishman said. "The web site is one way more we can send the strong message that tobacco is not for young people."

A survey of middle school students conducted by the Department of Health and Senior Services last year revealed kids start experimenting with tobacco as early as age 11. Forty percent of 7th and 8th graders said they had smoked a cigarette in

their lifetime and twenty percent reported smoking within the last 30 days. Separate studies show that 82 percent of adults who ever smoked had their first cigarette by age 18 and more than half became smokers at that time.

"We hope kids will be drawn to our new web site for the same reason they're drawn to the internet: intriguing graphics, easy-to-find information and the opportunity to participate in fun, interactive programs—all of this while they're getting the message about smoking," said Fishman.

Fishman said www.dontgetsucked.com will be advertised on Yahoo!, a popular Internet search engine, starting Nov. 15 and on the Game Land web site.

"We want kids to get the right message," offered cyber-teen Lucas. "Smoking isn't cool; it's nasty. Zak and I are here to tell kids surfin' the web not to get sucked in by cigarette ads or by peer pressure."

"Yeah," added Lucas' web pal, Zak, "don't get sucked in."

In addition to The Mergue and The Game Room, visitors to www.dontgetsucked.com can visit the Free Stuff Center, a place for free



downloads of sound files (such as "phlegm" and "cough"), graphics files and tips on how to quit smoking. The Quick Mart, where kids (as well as vendors) can get information on age-of-sale laws; and The Subway, the hub for anti-smoking and other cool web sites to which kids can link.

In the "Talk Back" section of the site, kids can send free, virtual post cards to encourage friends or family members who smoke to stop. They can also send the Department of Health and Senior Services comments or suggestions on the web site or the department's overall campaign to stop teens and pre-teens from smoking and can enter their own anti-smoking web pages in a contest.

58 year old marriage license law repealed

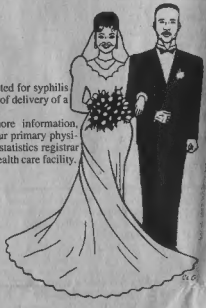
Newark—The State of New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services has announced that the 58 year-old law that required a blood test in order to get a marriage license has been repealed by both houses and signed into law by Governor Christine Todd Whitman. Previously, a couple was required by law to be tested for syphilis before obtaining a marriage license.

Now a woman will be tested for syphilis at the time of delivery of a live infant. The current law provides that a pregnant woman be tested for syphilis at the time of her first medical examination for the pregnancy. The reason the laws were repealed was because syphilis has a three month incubation period during which time a test can give a false reading. The provisions in the new law will protect newborn infants from the effects of syphilis and will ensure that infants born with syphilis are diagnosed and treated promptly.

The bill was amended to add the requirement that the mother's blood or blood from the infant's umbilical

cord be tested for syphilis at the time of delivery of a live infant.

For more information, contact your primary physician, vital statistics registrar or office or health care facility.



Religion

Positively Black

Creating a healthy mindset

By Junious Ricardo Stanton
NNPA Correspondent

Harmony and balance are integral aspects of traditional African philosophy and life. Ideas about oneness, peace, and equilibrium are thousands of years old. However, we have gotten away from our understanding of the importance of harmony and balance in life. As brainwashed, deculturated and dehumanized Africans in a hostile and antithetical psycho-spiritual environment, we have lost our bearings. We have lost contact with our core, our true selves.

In addition to being indoctrinated against ourselves, we have been trained to function in an unbalanced mental pattern. We suffer from what I call cognitive dissociation. By that I mean we are unable to perceive the whole picture, or understand the interconnectedness of our past, what is happening to us now and why we are in the situations we are in. We are out of balance and harmony with ourselves. Our personal lives and communities reflect this dismal state of affairs. In our disoriented state, we have taken on the materialistic values and nihilism of western culture and it is destroying us.

We are thrown off psychologically, spiritually and emotionally. We have been conditioned to think in left brain terms. We have forgotten we are whole brain people. Europeans function as left brain beings, particularly the male of the species. They think linearly and sequentially dissecting and separating parts from the whole, dividing them and pigeonholing them into segments. They are unable to comprehend or understand the interconnectedness and interdependency of all things. This is why they have no affinity with nature, why their view of the world, God and humanity is pessimistic, cold and isolated; why they are in a perpetual attack mode. Their left brain orientation is at the core of their individualistic approach to life.

Africans, on the other hand, are naturally whole-brained people. Blending both the left (sequential, segmentive, concrete, and outer

directed) and right (synthetical, unifying, spiritual, psychic and inner oriented) hemispheres. Whole-brain functioning enabled our ancestors to build unified, stable and peaceful civilizations everywhere they went.

Our cognitive orientation determines our perceptions, our emotional responses and our behavior. Left brain functioning results in an alienated, unbalanced dog-eat-dog mentality that manifests as constant strife, bickering and war, social disruption and defilement of the environment. The antithesis of unbalanced brain functioning is whole-brained functioning which strives for

harmony, co-operation and an integrated approach to living. The modus operandi of whole-brain functioning is always towards unity both personally and collectively. Thus Africans intuited and articulated the timeless concept of MA'AT (Divine Order, Truth, Harmony, Balance, Justice, Righteousness, Reciprocity), in traditional African society health is equated with both personal and societal integrity, balance and harmony and illness is equated with a breach of the individual and collective psycho-spiritual-social order.

Integrated or whole-brain functioning is our natural way of thinking. Unfortunately as deculturated and derelictized people we have been conditioned to think purely in left brain terms. We have to relearn to integrate and balance our brain functions. Integrating both hemispheres will require a mental reorientation to establish confidence in our right hemisphere.

The right hemisphere deals with intuition, abstract ideas and works to blend them to enable and ennoble one to live out lofty ideals such as MA'AT, not merely verbalize them. Integrated/whole-brained functioning and mind functioning (conscious, subconscious and superconscious) empowers one and enables one to exert control over him or herself and the environment. This is the beginning of true power! Once we

learn to harness and master the power of our integrated minds nothing will be impossible for us. When we return to function holistically we will be better able to cope with life. Needless to say, people who use and balance both hemispheres are more effective than people who only use half their brain.

We can only function on our level of cognitive orientation. At present we are a fragmented people. Unifying our brains and minds will enable us to gain self-mastery and personal and group empowerment. Once we evolve to the point we know how to effectively utilize our inner powers and resources, our lives and our outer conditions will drastically improve.

Integrated brain/mind functioning will allow us to tap into the higher consciousness that guides the universe. Tapping into this "infinite intelligence" on a daily basis will enable us to improve the conditions of our lives and the planet. It will enable us to discern the truth about ourselves and what it is we are to accomplish with our lives. The key to our empowerment, liberation and regeneration is our return to whole-brain functioning, inner harmony and balance.

Jammin' for Jesus is on

Back by popular demand is an event you don't want to miss—Jammin' for Jesus!

This youth explosion ministry invites you to join them Sunday, November 16 (6-10 p.m.) at Jammin' for Jesus 3 at the New Hope Baptist church located at 106 Sussex Avenue in Newark, NJ.

Come and be blessed by the powerful ministry of the "Jammin' for Jesus" mass choir as they showcase the most talented songwriters, singers, musicians and directors from around the garden state.

For more information, contact the church at 201-622-4547/8.

ESSEX VALLEY HEALTHCARE

There's a lot of good healthcare under our umbrella

Essex Valley Healthcare is a private company comprised of a variety of community organizations, dedicated to providing quality healthcare services with compassion and concern.

EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL
A vital part of the community for over 90 years, the hospital, a 238 bed acute care facility, continues to expand its programs and services. Enlarged Physical Therapy services, a new mammography unit, advanced CAT scan, and same day surgery are recent examples.

FAMILY HEALTH CENTER
Newly renovated, this is a convenient place for most family healthcare needs from minor injuries to illnesses to periodic physical exams and immunizations with specialties in pediatrics, OB/GYN, orthopedics and general medicine.

ESSEX VALLEY VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION (EVVNA)
Northern N.J.'s largest home health care company serving more than 6000 patients a year, the EVVNA provides a complete range of professional services including nursing, rehabilitation, medical social work and nutrition services in the patient's home.

CARE AT HOME
Over 100 home health aides bring personal care assistance to those who need help with every day living tasks in the home.

ESSEX VALLEY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION SERVICE (EVMTS)
Maintains a fleet of 8 modern ambulances for transport of the sick or injured and for response to emergencies throughout the area.

EAST ORANGE GENERAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION
The fundraising arm of Essex Valley Healthcare, the foundation sponsors annual events, such as AIDS Walk-a-thon and Golf/Tennis tournament, to raise monies to purchase equipment or to benefit special needs patients.

PHYSICIAN OFFICE BUILDING (opening soon)
State-of-the-art building, located next to the hospital on Central Ave., will house physician specialties, a new dialysis center, diagnostic equipment, labs and more.

Learn more about how we can serve your healthcare needs. Call 973-266-4577 for our FREE booklet describing Essex Valley Healthcare programs and services and a FREE gift.

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Billboard

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

NEWARK—David Robinson and the All-Stars will perform at the Commerce Food Court from noon to 1:30 p.m. This event is free. For more info, call 973-262-4599.

NEWARK—The Newark Public Library presents a live performance by Gloria Coleman, jazz pianist, from noon to 1:30 p.m. For more info, call 973-733-7783.

NEWARK—A free jazz 'n' Flight performance by BJ and 40 Plus from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Newark International Airport. For more info, call 973-981-6154 (6285).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

NEW YORK—Jazz at Lincoln Center presents, The Wizard on Film, hosted by Dr. Michael White. For more information, call 212-875-5529.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Sculptor Leah Jacobson will discuss her work at Montclair State University. For more info, call 973-452-4533.

JERSEY CITY—Dr. Andrew Delbanco will speak at Jersey City State College on "Is There a Spiritual Crisis in the United States?" in room 202 of Heppburn Hall at 11 a.m. For more info, call 201-200-3426.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

NEW YORK—NY-New York Autumn Blues Festival featuring former Muddy Waters band members, pays tribute to the legendary bluesman who championed the amplified Chicago sound, 8 p.m. at Symphony Space.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

NEW YORK—Jazz at Lincoln Center presents, Who is Sidney Bechet? at The Alice Tully Hall. For more information, call 212-875-5529.

NEWARK—The Newark Jazz Festival with Yvette Michele and The All Stars at the NJPAC's Prudential Hall 7:30 p.m.

NEWARK—Dance Women/Living

Legends features the dance worlds of women at the NJPAC, 3:00 p.m. For more info, call 973-297-5834.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The State Theatre presents "Don Rickles" at 7 p.m. For more info, call 732-246-7469.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

NEWARK—Music of Mal performed by Malt top diva, Oumou Sangare, 7 p.m. at 7 p.m. at Symphony space.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The State Theatre presents a film "Ponette/Anna" at 7 p.m. For more info, call 732-246-7469.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17

NEW YORK—NY-Knickbocker Bar and Grill presents Gene Lees, vocalist, Phil Lees on piano, David Finn on bass and Gabe Bertolotti on guitar. For more info, call 212-228-8490.

NEW YORK—NY-Knickbocker Bar & Grill presents Steve Kuhn on piano, David Finn on bass and Billy Drummond on drums. For more info, call 212-228-8490.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19

NEW YORK—NY-Knickbocker Bar & Grill presents Steve Kuhn on piano, David Finn on bass and Billy Drummond on drums. For more info, call 212-228-8490.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20

UPPER MONTCLAIR—Alina Wilczynski and Diane Hengshian-McNees, will discuss their work at Montclair State University. For more info, call 973-655-7294.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The State Theatre presents "Sleeping Beauty on ICE" at 8 p.m. For more info, call 732-246-7469.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

NEWARK—African Globe Theatre/Works presents Tony Howarth's "A Silver Throne" through 22nd at Newark Symphony Hall. For more information, call 973-654-1584.

JERSEY CITY—Café Jazz Series—Featuring Jazz Music 8 p.m. at the Miller Branch Library (Cultural Arts Center). For more info, call 547-4505.

Send Billboard events to ARTZ:

ARTZ Calendar, P.O. Box 1774
Plainfield, NJ 07060 or FAX to 908.753.1036

Yvette Michele



Given the number of female vocalists on the R&B charts these days, new female artists could very easily get lost in the shuffle. Having already paid the price for success, however, Yvette Michele will have no such troubles. The congress-garnered national attention in 1995 with "Everyday & Everynight," her debut single from Funk Master Flex Presents The Mix Tape.

Volume I Yvette's association with the world famous DJ continued in 1996 with his Volume II follow-up which featured the smash single I'm Not Feeling You. This anthem for women in the '90s did well on both the R&B and Pop charts, validating Yvette as a unique talent in a sea of R&B divas.

Get ready to laugh in cyberspace with Chris Rock

NET
NEW YORK—Get a behind-the-scenes glimpse of "The Chris Rock Show," HBO's new late-night series featuring Emmy-winning comic Chris Rock, at its new Web site (www.hbo.com/chrisrock). Using VHS audio and Quick Time video, the site gives fans what they can't see on TV—the inside scoop on the producer and writers of the show, info on Rock and celebrity guests, plus the live audience giving it the juice.



episode of "The Chris Rock Show" opens with a topical monologue by Rock, followed by interviews with guests from entertainment, politics and other fields, comedy segments and a performance by a hot music star. New episodes debut every Friday at 11:30 p.m. (ET).

The making of NJPAC

TRENTON—NIN tells the incredible story behind the rise of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC), one of the biggest cultural stories of the decade, in the half-hour special, *New Stage for a City*, an NIN production premiering Thursday, Nov. 13 at 9 p.m. on NIN Public Television.

The compelling documentary is hosted by renowned violinist Itzhak Perlman. Underwritten by The Prudential Foundation, *New Stage for a City* captures the drama of NJPAC's evolution, from the implosion of the old Military Park Hotel to the center's triumphant opening night gala, and features interviews with the people who defied the naysayers and united around the belief that an arts center could revitalize Newark, North America's third oldest city.

The underlying question—can a major arts center save a troubled American city?—reverberates throughout the documentary, as the key players who fueled the center's creation and garnered support from the public and private sectors, describe the history of NJPAC and its importance to the city of Newark.

Former Governor Tom Kean talks about his "urban promise" to bring to the state of New Jersey and to Newark a world-class performing arts center that could transform the city and its neighborhoods. Mayor Sharpe James describes his battle for Federal funding in Washington, where he went toe-to-toe with HUD Secretary Jack Kemp.

New Stage for a City also includes interviews with Amir Baraka, acclaimed poet and community activist; Barton Myers, the Los Angeles architect who designed NJPAC; Zdenek Macal, conductor of the N.J. Symphony Orchestra; NJPAC's resident company, and Judith Jamison, artistic director of the Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre, an NJPAC resident principal affiliate, among others.

"From an idea to an institution, NJPAC is historic," said Gabriela Coleman president of The Prudential Foundation. "Prudential is proud to underwrite *New Stage for a City*, which captures this profound achievement."



African Heritage Network presents 'Blazing Saddles'

NEW YORK—The African Heritage Network "Movie of the Month" series, hosted by legendary film stars Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, broadcasts *Blazing Saddles*, a great holiday special for the month of November. The movie airs November 16 at 11:30 p.m. on WABQ.

Blazing Saddles is a hilarious look at Mel Brooks' classic comedy spoof of western movies. It stars Bart (Cleavon Little), a bright railroad gang worker with a gift for finding trouble. Bart is slated for the hangman's noose, until he agrees to be sheriff of Ridge Rock, a wild Western town full of corruption and scandal.

While trying to keep law and order in the town, Bart forms a friendship with the often-jailed Jim (Gene Wilder), once feared as the Waco kid. They join forces to take on Tuggart's gang, which includes mad Mongo (Alec Kassar) and sexy singer Lily Von Stupp (Made-line Kahn), a German temptress who just can not seduce Bart. Bart eventually wins the confidence of his townspeople and enlists them to join him and Jim's team in a royal battle with Tuggart's gang.



Music

Velvet is in this genre. Not only on the fashion front, but thanks to Janet Jackson's *Velvet Rope* it's on the music scene.

This one is a must have. The current single, "Got 'Til It's Gone," featuring Q Tip uses a sample from Joni Mitchell, a young, white woman singer of the '60s. The album is stylistically conscious-raising. Intertwined in *Velvet Rope* are tales that discuss homophobia, loneliness, dealing with relationships, AIDS, and the development of children.

Janet's career
Janet has sold over 40 million albums worldwide. Her 16 gold-certified singles are among the most of any female recording artist in history. Her first-ever world tour, in 1990, became the most successful premiere tour by any artist, with over two million fans attending the record-breaking performances.

Janet's award
Janet's latest winning video's testify to her cutting-edge choreography, athleticism, dancing, and all-around visual flair. Moreover, her critically acclaimed film debut as "Jade" is the last female role in director John Singleton's compelling 1993 film *Poetic Justice*, marked

Amid all her career accomplishments, it's important to recognize Janet's humanitarian efforts. A strong advocate for children, education, civil and human rights, and AIDS research, Janet supports many non-for-profit organizations and works closely with the Watts (LA) Willowbrook YMCA and, "A Place Called Home," a transitional home for abandoned and abused children located in South Central LA.

Janet the businesswoman
Janet is involved as well as makes the final decision regarding every aspect of her multi-faceted career—from the material she sings to the choreography, marketing, and contract she signs. A 24-year veteran of the entertainment industry, she has experienced, firsthand, the joys, the pain, the disappointments, the accomplishments—and, the emerging strong, and in control. It was she who in 1991, in her mid twenties, negotiated a multi-million dollar, one record deal with Virgin Records, the only artist in recording history to do so.

Subsequently, it was she who led the negotiations which resulted in her signing a multi-year album deal with Virgin.

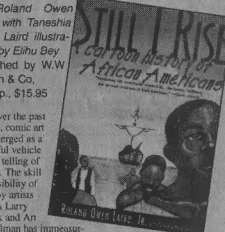
Still I Rise

by Roland Owen Laird with Tanesha Laird illustrations by Eilhu Bey published by W.W. Norton & Co. 266 pp., \$15.95

Over the past decade, comic art has emerged as a powerful vehicle for the telling of history. The skill and visibility of work by artists such as Larry Gluck and An Spiegelman has immeasurably expanded the world of the graphic book.

With the publication of *Still I Rise*, a cartoon history of African-Americans, this world moves to embrace the rich history of African-Americans.

Compelling and irreverent, *Still I Rise* is the fruit of Posso Komiks, one of America's most exciting independent black publishers. Featured on ABC News, "The Today Show," and "Yo, MTV Rap," Posso is most famous for "The Griots," a syndicated—and dead-on-the-air—weekly comic strip that reached over one million readers a week.



With energetic and uncompromising artwork, illustrations by Eilhu Bey illuminate the epic struggles and victories of African-American history.

Authors Roland Owen Laird, Jr. and Tanesha Nesh Laird pull no punches as they confront the betrayals and murderous deprivations faced by black people in both the North and South. Their text is sometimes scorching, sometimes bitterly humorous, and always powerful. The heroes are all here: Harriet Tubman, Frederick Douglass, Madame CJ Walker, Ida B. Wells, Malcolm X, Martin Luther King and many more. Lesser known luminaries are here, including Maggie Lena Walker, America's first female bank president, and Granville Woods, who invented the "third rail" system of powering subway trains. Taking its title from a poem by Maya Angelou, *Still I Rise* celebrates a culture of survival and innovation.

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